

CLAIMS

1. Use of Rev-erb receptors and/or the response element thereof or a functional equivalent of these
5 receptors to screen substances which are useful in the treatment of lipid metabolism dysfunctions.
2. Use according to Claim 1, characterized in that the Rev-erb receptor and the Rev-erb receptor response element are the hRev-erba receptor and the hRev-erba
10 receptor response element.
3. Process for screening substances which are useful in the treatment of lipid metabolism dysfunctions, characterized:
 - in that the test substance is placed in
15 contact with a receptor of the Rev-erb family and/or a Rev-erb receptor response element, and/or a nuclear factor capable of functionally coupling Rev-erb to the RNA-polymerase complex, or a functional equivalent thereof,
 - 20 - in that the following are measured by any appropriate means:
 - the binding of the said substance to the Rev-erb receptor or the binding of the complex formed from the said substance and the Rev-erb receptor to its
25 response element and/or to a nuclear factor capable of functionally coupling Rev-erb to the RNA-polymerase complex, and/or
 - the modulation of the transcriptional activity of the genes placed under the control of a promoter comprising the Rev-erb response element.
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4. Process for screening substances which are useful in the treatment of lipid metabolism dysfunctions, which consists in determining the effect of the test substance on the modulation of the expres-
35 sion of the gene coding for the Rev-erb receptor.
5. Use of a substance selected by a screening process according to either of Claims 3 and 4, for the preparation of a composition, in particular a pharmaceutical composition, which is useful for the

treatment of lipid metabolism dysfunctions associated with apolipoprotein C-III in man or animals.

6. Use of a substance which is capable of binding to the Rev-erb receptor or to the response element thereof, for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition which is useful for the treatment and/or prevention of lipid metabolism dysfunctions associated with apolipoprotein C-III in man or animals.
7. Use of a substance which is capable of modulating the transcriptional activity of a gene placed under the control of a promoter comprising the Rev-erb receptor response element, for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition which is useful for the treatment and/or prevention of lipid metabolism dysfunctions associated with apolipoprotein C-III in man or animals.
8. Use of a substance which is capable of modulating the expression of the gene coding for the Rev-erb receptor for the preparation of a composition, in particular a pharmaceutical composition, which is useful for the treatment and/or prevention of lipid metabolism dysfunctions associated with apolipoprotein C-III in man or animals.
9. Use of a screening process according to either of Claims 3 and 4, for the characterization, justification and claim of the mechanism of action of substances possessing anti-atherosclerotic properties using the Rev-erb receptors and/or the response elements thereof, as well as their effect on apo C-III.